

# COAL NONFATAL

*Margaret*  
80-0719

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

District 9

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION  
(Underground Coal Mine)

NONINJURY COAL MINE OUTBURST (BOUNCE) ACCIDENT

L. S. Wood Mine (ID No. 05-00300)  
Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.  
Redstone, Pitkin County, Colorado

July 1, 1980

by

Harold Shaffer  
Coal Mine Inspector

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Originating Office - Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Drawer J, 575 East First South, Price, Utah 84501  
Jensen L. Bishop, Subdistrict Manager

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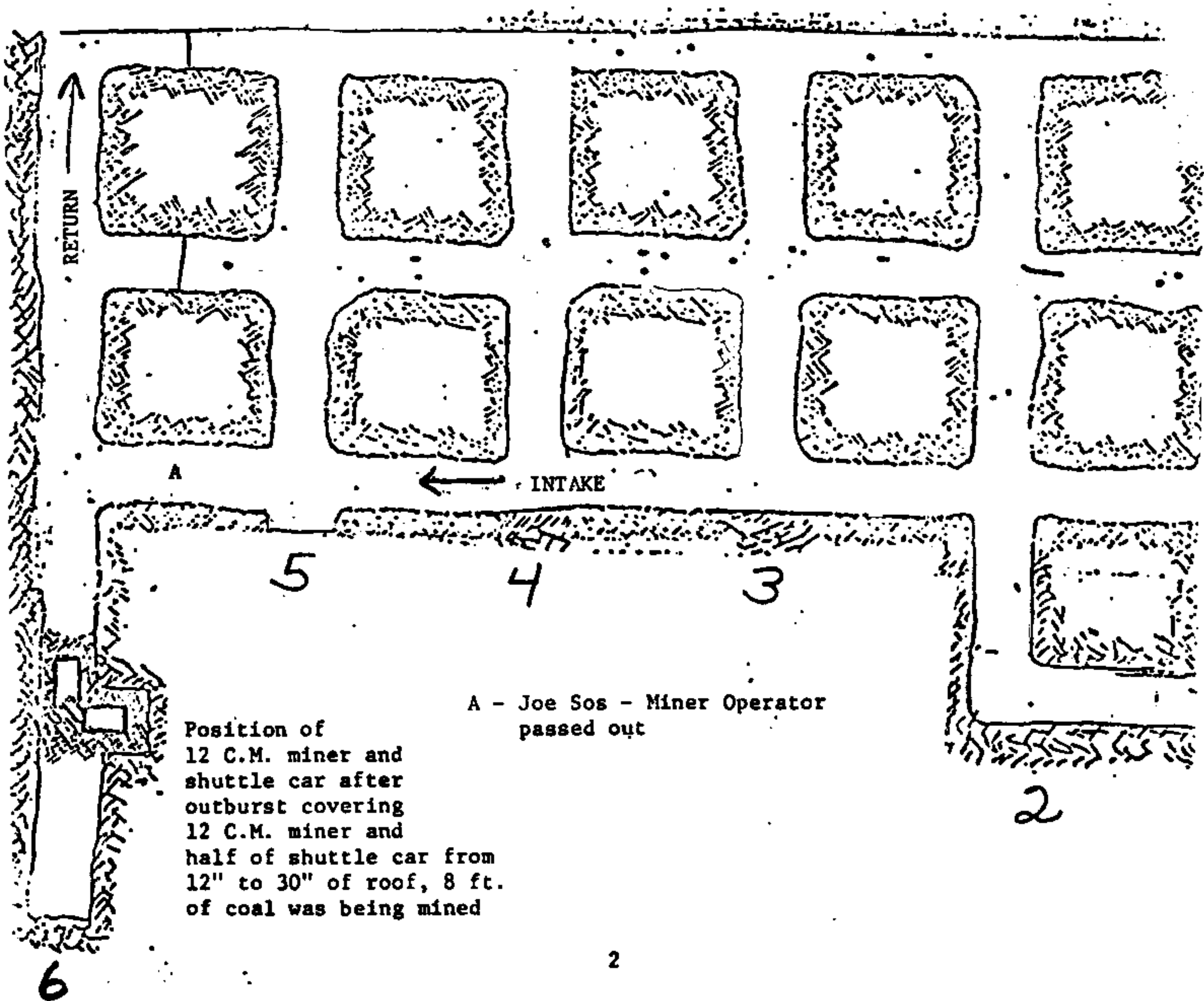
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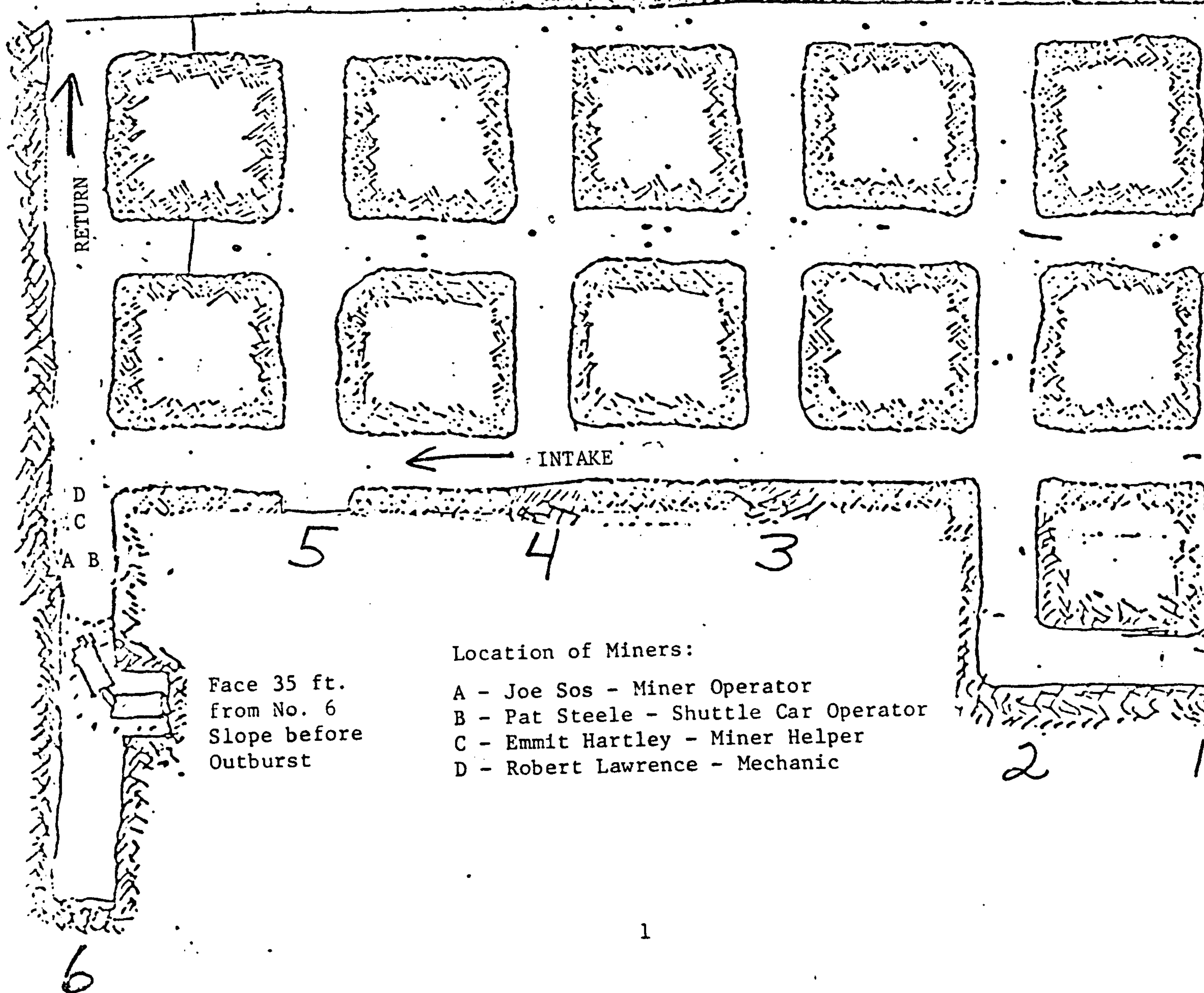


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# Abstract of Investigation

U.S. Department of Labor  
Mine Safety and Health Administration



## Authority —

This report is based on an investigation made pursuant to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, Public Law 95-173, as amended by Public Law 95-164.

### SECTION I - IDENTIFICATION DATA

Non Injury  
1. Title of investigation: Outburst (Bounce)  
2. Date MESA investigation started: 07/01/80  
3. Report release date: August 12, 1980  
4. Mine: L. S. Wood  
5. Mine ID number: 05-00300  
6. Company: Mid-Continent Resources, Inc.  
Redstone  
7. Town, County, State: Pitkin County, CO  
8. Author(s): Harold Shaffer

### SECTION II - ORIGINATING OFFICE

18 Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Coal Mine Health and Safety District No.: 9  
Address: Drawer J, Price, UT 84501

### SECTION III - MINE INFORMATION

9. Daily production: 1,345  
10. Surface employment: 6  
11. Underground employment: 101  
12. Name of coalbed: Coal Basin "B"  
13. Thickness of coalbed: 84 inches

### SECTION IV - SAFETY RECORD FREQUENCY RATE (FIR) FOR

14. Industry: 11.50  
15. This operation: 18.95  
16. Training program approved: Yes  
17. Mine Profile Rating: 741

### SECTION V - ABSTRACT

On Monday, June 30, 1980, about 9:15 p.m., an outburst of coal (bounce) occurred in the crosscut being driven from No. 6 slope to No. 5 slope.

The accident occurred because of the presence of overburden which is in excess of 2500 feet.

### SECTION VI - PERSONNEL

Company officials:	Name	Address
19. President:	John A. Reeves	P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623
20. Superintendent:	Tom Scott	P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623
21. Safety Director:	Ron Henderson	P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623
22. Principle officer—H&S:	Tom Scott	P.O. Box 158, Carbondale, CO 81623
23. Labor Organization:	Redstone Workers Association, 0526 Hwy. 133, Carbondale, CO	81623
24. Chairman—H&S Committee:	Richard Lane	0526 Hwy. 133, Carbondale, CO 81623

### Commentary

On Monday, July 1, 1980, at 3:00 p.m., the second shift mining crew, under the supervision of George Small, section foreman, entered the mine and traveled to the slope section arriving about 3:30 p.m. Small examined the working places and then assigned duties and work locations to the crew. The 12 C.M. miner cutting head motor was down and work was being performed on the motor by the master mechanic Kenneth Spangler. About 4:45 p.m., the work on the cutting head motor was completed and coal production began and continued without incident until the accident occurred. The face of the crosscut was advanced some 35 feet from No. 6 slope to No. 5 slope at which time small bumps started to occur. Joe Sos, remote control miner operator, Pat Steele, shuttle car operator, Emmitt Hartley, miner helper, and Robert Lawrence, mechanic, proceeded to travel from the area as the outburst occurred in the crosscut, pushing the 12 C.M. miner out in the intersection of No. 6 slope and the crosscut, completely covering the 12 C.M. miner with coal and covering over half of the Joy shuttle car completely, and tapering back to the end of the shuttle car. Joe Sos, miner operator, lost consciousness while traveling through the outby crosscut. He was moved to a safe area and revived, and then transported to the mine office on the surface.

The occurrence was reported to the MSHA Supervisor, Freeman Staples, at his home by telephone, June 30, 1980, 10:15 p.m.

### Discussion and Evaluation

The investigation revealed the following factors relevant to the occurrence of the outburst of coal (bounce):

1. The force of the outburst coming from the face of the crosscut being mined pushed loose coal about 55 feet outby, filling the entire intersection.
2. The outburst of coal did affect ventilation.
3. This seam of coal has considerable overburden in excess of 2,500 feet.
4. The coal being mined was not being relieved of stress by any means.
5. The equipment was being operated by remote control and the operators were outside of the cabs and located about 70 feet outby the intersection.

### Findings of Fact

Evidence and findings of the investigation indicated there were no violations of Title 30 CFR which contributed to the occurrence of the accident.

### Conclusion

Probable cause of the outburst of coal (bounce) was a buildup of pressures in the advancing crosscut. A contributing factor was that advance stress relief was not being practiced at the time of the occurrence.

Respectfully submitted,

*Harold Shaffer*  
Harold Shaffer

Approved by:

*Jensen L. Bishop*  
Jensen L. Bishop  
Subdistrict Manager



APPENDIX

The investigation was conducted by the Mine Safety and Health Administration and those persons present during the investigation were:

Mid-Continent Resources, Inc. Officials

Tom Scott

Superintendent

Mine Safety & Health Administration

Harold Shaffer

Coal Mine Inspector

Daniel Martinez

Coal Mine Inspector (Electrical)